

Atty Docket No. TRI-001

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as examined pursuant to the office action of April 14, 2003. Applicant's representative also wishes to thank the examiner for the clarification provided in the April 21, 2003, telephone call. In the office action, Claims 23-32 were examined. By this Amendment, Applicant amends Claims 23-26, cancels Claims 27-32 without prejudice or disclaimer, and adds Claims 33-36. Therefore, only Claims 23-26 and 33-36 remain pending, with Claims 23 and 33 independent.

Claims 23-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs for enablement and definiteness. Prior rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 had been successfully traversed pursuant to the March 21, 2003, communication filed by Applicant in response to the September 25, 2002, office action.

Applicant respectfully suggests that the amendment made to independent Claim 23, and the addition of new independent Claim 33 in a form that addresses the examiner's objections, successfully traverse the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs. Specifically, independent Claim 23 now describes the film of the present invention as including a structural polymeric material "selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene and a polyethylene-polypropylene copolymer" and a secondary polymeric material "selected from the group consisting of ethyl-vinyl-acetate copolymer, ethyl-methacrylate copolymer." In addition, independent Claim 33 describes the film of the present invention as including a structural polymeric material "selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene and a polyethylene-polypropylene copolymer" and a secondary polymeric material that "is styrene-ethylene-butadiene-styrene copolymer."

The identification of the structural polymeric material and the secondary polymeric material with specificity particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter of the invention. Further, the identification of those materials is fully supported by the Specification at page 7, lines 8-26; page 8, lines 11-21; page 9, lines 1-14; page 9, lines 31-32; page 10, lines 1-4; page 10, lines 19-29; page 11, lines 1-4; page 12, lines 23-30; and page 13, lines 10-20. Moreover, the disclosure is enabling to one skilled in the art in that the structural polymeric material, the secondary polymeric material, and the printable material--either VA or MA--are all described in the same sections of the Specification.

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Pursuant to the amendment to Claim 23 and the addition of Claim 33, and in view of the comments presented herein, Applicant respectfully suggests that the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraph, rejections have been successfully traversed. Allowance of the remaining claims is therefore requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and arguments, Applicant suggests that the present application is in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after review of this Amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

This Amendment includes the cancellation of six claims previously the subject of examination, and the addition of four claims. The total number of pending independent claims is less than three and the total number of pending claims is less than 20. Therefore, no additional filing fee is required.

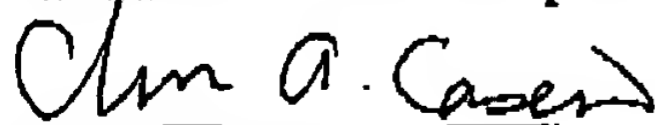
Respectfully submitted,



Chris A. Caseiro, Reg. No. 34,304
Attorney for Applicant
Verrill & Dana, LLP
One Portland Square
Portland, ME 04112-0586
Tel. No. 207-253-4530

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, After Final, on July 14, 2003, by facsimile transmission to facsimile phone number 703-872-9311, attention of examiner Nathan M. Nutter.



Chris A. Caseiro